in this area are exploited for lime preparation and ornamental / decorative purposes. In view of good abundance of molluscs during the present limited work, further survey(s) are likely to bring to light more species that have not so far been recorded from this region and understand the biodiversity better.

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14. CROTALARIA ANGULATA MILLER AND TAXILLUS BRACTEATUS (WALL.) TIEGHEM – NEW RECORDS TO THE FLORA OF ORISSA

C. SUDHAKAR REDDY^{1,3}, CHIRANJIBI PATTANAIK^{1,4} AND A.K. BISWAL²

¹Forestry & Ecology Division, National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO, Hyderabad 500 625, Andhra Pradesh, India. ²Department of Botany, North Orissa University, Baripada 757 003, Orissa, India. Email: anilkbiswal@yahoo.com ³Email: csreddy_nrsa@rediffmail.com ⁴Email: jilu2000@rediffmail.com

Introduction

In the course of phytosociological studies of Similipal Biosphere Reserve, Mayurbhanj district, Orissa, India, we collected specimens of two interesting species. After critical examination (Gamble and Fischer 1915-1936) and examining the specimens deposited at Linnaean Herbarium (S-LINN), Swedish Museum of Natural History (Anon 2002) and Central National Herbarium (CAL), Kolkata, they were identified as *Crotalaria angulata* Miller (Papilionaceae) and *Taxillus bracteatus* (Wall.) Tieghem. (Loranthaceae). They are not mentioned in the flora of Orissa (Saxena and Brahmam 1996; Mishra *et al.* 1999), and are first time records from here.

Crotalaria angulata Miller (Papilionaceae)

Crotalaria angulata Miller, Gard. Dict. ed.8. no.9. 1768. *Astragalus biflorus* L. Mant. Pl. 273. 1771. *Crotalaria biflora* (L.) L. Mant. Pl. 570. 1771: FBI 2: 66. 1876; Gamble 1: 292 (206) 1918.

Prostrate herb. Branchlets hispid. Leaves simple, ovate. 1.0-1.6 x 0.4-1.0 cm, base and apex obtuse, margin entire. Racemes lateral, 2-flowered. Corolla exerted, yellow. Pod subglobose, 1.0×0.8 cm, stiff-hispid, twice as long as calyx. Seeds 8-10.

Habitat: Rare, in fringes of Sal dominated moist deciduous forests (elevation: 800 m).

Fl. & Fr.: August-February.

Specimen Examined: Orissa: Mayurbhanj district, Aski: 14.ii.2005, CSR 1991 (North Orissa Univ. Herbarium).

Taxillus bracteatus (Wall.) Tieghem. (Loranthaceae)

Taxillus bracteatus (Wall.) Tieghem, Bul. Soc. Bot. France 42: 256.1895. *Loranthus bracteatus* Heyne ex Wall. in Roxb. Fl. Ind. 2: 220.1824. FBI 5: 213.1886; Gamble 2: 1252(876).1925.

Parasitic, evergreen herb; branchlets tawny tomentose. Leaves orbicular, 1.5-4.0 x 1.5-4.0 cm, 3 or 5 nerved from base, pilose pubescent, base rounded to cuneate. Flowers in axillary fascicles, yellow, scarlet red inside, 1 cm across.

Habitat: Rare, partial stem parasite on *Kydia calycina* on savannah hill tops (elevation: above 1,000 m)

Fl. & Fr.: October-March.

Specimen Examined: Orissa: Mayurbhanj district, Meghasani hill: 12.ii.2005, CSR 1916 (North Orissa University Herbarium).

Note: It differs from *Taxillus cuneatus* (Roth.) Dancer in presence of orbicular leaves and tomentose plant parts and flowers, in case of latter leaves are obovate-spatulate, plant parts and flowers are glabrous at maturity.

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15. HEDYCHIUM FLAVESCENS CAREY EX ROSCOE – AN ADDITION TO THE FLORA OF MAHARASHTRA STATE

NILESH V. MALPURE^{1,2} AND S.R. YADAV^{1,3}

¹Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur 416 004, Maharashtra, India. ²Email: nmalpure@rediffmail.com ³Email: sryadavdu@rediffmail.com

Hedychium flavescens Carey ex Roscoe (Family: Zingiberaceae) was recently collected from Tillari region in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra state, and this is the first report of its occurrence in Maharashtra. The species was so far reported from southern parts of India (Sabu 2006). The genus *Hedychium* in Maharashtra is now represented by three species, namely *H. coronarium* Koen., *H. flavescens* Carey ex Roscoe and *H. flavum* Roxb. The identity of *H. flavum* Roxb. is uncertain (Sharma *et al.* 1996). In the present paper, the nomenclature of the species along with a note are given for easy identification.

Hedychium flavescens Carey ex Roscoe, Monandr. t. 50. 1825; Wight, Icon. PI. Indiae Orient. t. 2008 & 2009. 1853; C.E.C. Fisch. in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 8: 1485. 1928; K.G. Bhat, Fl. Udupi 631. 2003; M. Sabu, Zingiberaceae & Costaceae of South India 199. 2006. *H. coronarium* var. *flavescens* (Roscoe) Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India 6: 226. 1892. **Specimen Examined**: Maharashtra: Kolhapur, Tillari. 05.ix.2006. Malpure 7 (Shivaji University Herbarium).

Note: The species prefers to grow along streams in evergreen forests at high altitude. The major threat to the species is the alteration of habitat and clearing of the forest for cultivation. The species is now cultivated in the Botanic Garden of the Department of Botany, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. The propagules of the species are also distributed for cultivation in home gardens, which can be an efficient practice for conservation of rare wild ornamental plants.

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